

Postsmouth Genealogical Society
Newsletter

FILE OF WIGHT LIBRARY
KATHFIELD BRANCH

Vol. 4. Issue 1

Researching Our Military Ancestors

Genealogy workshop on researching military records. Presented by The Mariners' Museum Adam Thoroughgood House. Aug 4 at 7:00 p.m..

Genealogy Of African- American Roots

Workshop by Dr. Tommy Bogger, Professor at Norfolk State University, focussing on resources for African-American genealogy. Adam Thoroughgood House. Aug 6 at 7:00 p.m..

Admission is \$2 per session. Friends of the Historic House admitted free. Please call 622-1211, ext.283, for reservations.

Porter Family

in the early 18 hundreds in Portsmouth City in Virginia there was a ship yard located on the water between the intersection of County St. & King St. This ship yard was one time called Porter & Dyson. The ship yard was conducted by Capt Joseph Porter father of Joseph L. Porter. He built a large number of ships' brigs & schooners and trained mechanics. Some of the townsmen who worked at ship yard, Nathaniel Owens, John L. Porter, Nathaniel Halstead of Norfolk County, William Porter of Petersburg.

Joseph Porter served as Capt. Va. ... Troops in War 1812 between United States & Great Britain. Joseph Married Francis Pritchard. They had five sons & four daughters. The known sons.
1. William Porter moved to Petersburg

2. Sidney Dale Porter went to Mobile, Ala.
3. Joseph Porter Jr.
4. Fletcher Porter
5. John L. Porter (Inventer) born Sept 1813
Married Susan N. Buxton, they had six Ch.
1. George P. Porter born 1835 (M) Sarah Sontag.
2. Mary Susan Porter (m) Prof. John S. Moore of Oxford, Ga.
3. Alice F. Porter (m) George H. Ellison of Mobile, Ala.
4. John W.H. Porter born 1842 (m) Elizabeth Bail.
5. Martha B. Porter (m) Prof. Frank P. Brent of Richmond, Va.
6. James B. Porter of Norfolk, Va. business firm of Porter & McNeal & Co.

John L. Porter is buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth, Virginia. He was born Sept. 19 1813 & died December 14 1893
He was the designer of the first iron clad the "Merrimac".

The line of decendant to John L. Porter is; John Porter, his son John Porter Jr. came to Norfolk Co. about 1646, married Mary Sidney, daughter of Col. Sidney and became Justice of Norfolk Co., his son Samuel Porter died 1698, his son Samuel Porter Jr. died in 1718, his son William Porter died 1760, his son William Porter Jr. was soldier Rev war he (m) 1782 Elizabeth Luke daughter of Isaac Luke. Joseph was the only son of William Porter Jr. His son Joseph Porter the owner of the Dyson & Porter ship Yard and the father of John L. Porter. Information on Porter family taken from my book Heritage of Portsmouth.

By Bettie Jo Matthews